

**USDA - FOREST SERVICE
BLACK HILLS NATIONAL FOREST
BEARLODGE RANGER DISTRICT**

Cook Lake Recreation Area Closure Order

Pursuant to 16 United States Code (U.S.C.) § 551 and 36 Code of Federal Regulations (C.F.R.) § 261.50 (a) and (b), the following acts are prohibited on National Forest System lands within the Black Hills National Forest, Crook County, Wyoming located within Township 53 North, Range 63 West, Sections 10 and 15 (the "Restricted Area") and is a part of the Cook Lake Recreation Area and that part of Trail 88 located within the Restricted Area (the "Restricted Trail"). The Restricted Area and Restricted Trail are depicted on the attached map, hereby incorporated into this Order as Exhibit A.

The Restricted Area is further defined as those portions of Township 53 North, Range 63 West, Sections 10 and Sections 15 consisting of approximately 69 acres located west of Cook Lake and west of its southern tip and enclosed on the West, North, and Southern sides by a fence.

The purpose of this Order is to protect human life and provide public safety due to the potential of landslides in the Cook Lake area.

PROHIBITIONS:

1. Going into or being upon the Restricted Area. 36 C.F.R. § 261.53(e)
2. Being on the Restricted Trail. 36 C.F.R. § 261.55(a)

EXEMPTIONS:

Pursuant to 36 C.F.R. § 261.50(e), the following persons are exempt from this Order:

1. Person(s) with a Forest Service permit specifically authorizing the prohibited act or omission.
2. Any Federal, State or local officer, or member of an organized rescue or fire fighting force in the performance of an official duty.

This Order will be in effect when signed, and will remain in effect until June 30, 2022, unless rescinded earlier.

This order supersedes, rescinds, and replaces any previous orders prohibiting the same acts covered by the order.

Done at Custer, South Dakota, this 22nd day of June, 2017


MARK E. VAN EVERY

Forest Supervisor
Black Hills National Forest

Violation of this regulation is punishable as a Class B misdemeanor, by a fine of not more than \$5,000.00 for individuals and \$10,000.00 for organizations, or imprisonment for not more than six (6) months, or both. 16 U.S.C. § 551 and 18 U.S.C. §§ 3559 and 3571

Management Objectives

BKF-143-2017

The purpose of this Order is to protect human life and provide public safety due to the potential of landslides from saturated soils in the Cook Lake area. Baseline data collection is on-going to ascertain the threat and implement safety mitigations which will minimize possibility of harm. The Forest Service will determine future prudent courses of action as a result of those studies.

EXHIBIT A

